Monday 28 Jan. 3 oclock P.M. 1839?

My Dear Bella – I have thought of you so much so *altogether* this day that I concluded I might as well begin to write – I cannot bear to think you are on the way to New Bedford – and I will not – I will think only of the "recompence of the reward" I will try to keep all other thoughts down. I was surprised & delighted to see Caroline yesterday. The meeting of the friends of the Liberator was glorious, & I lost it – *even* 62 cents *never* brought me for the time so comfort. Was it not *glorious*? Caroline set it off in good stile. We got home well & I found all about as I left them, not a *dog* moved his tounge at our staying & retaining the horse & chaise. As to the sentiment here in regard to the results of the "Annual" I know not yet, I have seen no one but the Peirces – they *exult*. I do believe that abolition here is much deluted, always the case you know where the Lib. is not freely read. Our Sewing Circle comes to-morrow night, & I will not fill up my paper when I have nothing *special* to write, & I shall not send this for more than a week. Evening 8 oclock Mr R. has just been and left me a paper, the resolutions of the Faneuil Hall meeting are in the Post as an advertisement. Bradburn has presented the Weymouth & Braintree petitions I suppose, the way he did it I heard was this. When he held them up he said, "these should have been presented by my venerable friend on the right" where sat Minot Thayer. Minot said to the one next him "He shall pay for that". I have written this three times & now I will stop.

Wednesday 30th Before you get this you will be shocked to hear of Mary Ann's death. Yesterday morning I sent by Mr R. a letter to Maria & Emma, when he returned he brought an answer from Maria, saying that Emma had gone out to Roxbury to tell Caroline of Mary Ann's death. I did think she would get better again, but I thought always she would die in early life, but she has gone from thing much sooner than I expected. I believe *too* she might have been saved. I went to Sewing Circle last night. 15 there & they never made their appearance before

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we could not boast of making much money, but we did much talking — Mrs Reeve is indeed a helper, she grows stronger & stronger we saw eye to eye, & gave a clear testimony. Francis Webb was there & said that a great abolitionist presented the petitions, & that Mercer did not like it. The Jury came last evening in the shape of Mr K's, review it is an excellent Jury, if they do not send you one let me know & I will ask Mr K. for his, & put it into the mail. Mercer wants me to confer with Rev Richards & Mr Johnson to lecture here next Sabbath evening & at the close get subscribers for the Lib. I will let you know all as it occurs. Thursday evening 28th. I have had a miserable day. all has been more ill — mother much more, but better to-night. Selina & Fred came here to tea on their way from Hingham. Catharine — Mr Fred that is concluded to help people the world, I was astonished. Selina knew little or nothing of Mary Ann's death. did not know she was any more ill until Saturday & she died Sabbath evening. Selina had not seen Mr Fred & knew nothing of the circumstances. St Clair is lecturing in Dedham is giving a course of 6 lectures. I must wonder the Massachusetts let him go out to get subscribers for the new paper. I believe the agents are busy as they can be. I am cross & tired & will go to bed — M. Griffs ny called this afternoon & the Willis's, Miss Dudley & Miss Dixey!!! I am all worn out. & feel somehow alone I don't want you all gone, but I will think of you who have no one to speak to & hold my peace. Feb. 2. we have all been ill again to-day Phebe & I both sick with a violent cold. many persons in the same way. & I have had to work, like a slave. Phebe gave up doing. which indicates her being pretty sick. No one came from Boston with Linfield. I looked a very little, for Johnson.

Sabbath afternoon 17 Feb

Dear Deborah — much — very much have I passed through since I last added a line to this sheet two weeks last night. I mentioned then I was sick with a cold — all were more or less ill, & I kept on dosing, I had drove off sickness & I thought I could do it again — I have been really ill — I suppose it would not do to assert that I had a regular lung fever, when I had been about the house every day, but I have had a lung turn ~~that~~ formed a crisis, a coat on the tongue which is now coming off, & I very gradually getting on. weak & feeble, & exceedingly low-spirited, & have been through the [illegible] illness — to say nothing of ~~extreme~~ impatience my head my poor head has been such that I could not describe its feelings if I would. In short I will not tell you the secrets of my prison-house. I say if we ever meet for there I shall have a season so to do. During this 2 weeks illness of mine. Phebe has been sick with a violent cold, you know what one of her colds are — 2 days she gave up but this was before I was at the worst. Pauline is now ill with it, but as she is more careful, & not so exposed before we complained of our [illegible] she will not be as sick. ~~Mother~~ has been about as usual. which is a great favour. But a word did I hear from you after you ~~left until~~ a week yesterday when Caroline came to Weymouth. Last night I had your letters to me dated I believe 7. & to day I have had all you have sent since you left. I began to write to Anne the same day I did to you, & at the end of a week or a day or ~~two~~ more I sent it.

In the course of two or three days I had an answer to my letter, written in much affliction. She never having heard of Mary-Anns death until she got my letter. That troubled me, as perhaps she might not have heard of it until her return. I did not see the death in any paper but the Dedh Caroline had not written, but she did not seem to regret that I had, though I believe, mine she intended to keep it from her if she could. I remember now that I did hear from you by the way of Anne.

Johnson came to Weymouth, the Saturday night I lef writing. He lectured — no — preached a sermon Sabbath evening a fortnight this night — took a text from Proverbs "Open thy mouth for the dumb" commenced by saying he would not be taken for a clergyman — he was not, but considered himself jus as much at liberty to take a text & open his mouth for the dumb, as if some ecclesiastical bod had laid their hands on him. He spoke considerab on this made it plain — so plain that I expected that P. would rise & speak — I looked for him to do it the first half hour, & I was not the only one that expected it. He then too up the Clergy, & as I told Anne there was not a vestige left of them to tell what they had bee It was I think the most severe thing I ever heard. Mr Perkins was in the pulpit, made the prayer. I wish I could give you any idea of the prayer. It was very long, & Slavery was scarcely mentioned. At the conclusion of Johnsons sermon, he made an appeal in behalf of the Liberator, read the editorial piece from the Herald of Freedom, & some other things but di not attempt to take subscriptions to it — for which I was glad, as he would not have got one.

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The monday afternoon after Johnson lectured-
preached I *mean*. he came here at 2 o'clock
& staid until 6. when he & Helen went to the
monthly concert which was to have been Sabbath eve
& put off on account of Johnson, which thing I suppo-
sed, gave offence to Mr P. Mr Mathews preached, & he
with Mrs P. concluded to put it off. I *think* that
Mr P. disliked it. In short what is done in regard
to the cause that he does like. I hope when you
write again your affairs will be arranged. it does
not seem to make any difference tho' about seeing
you as you will at *any* rate stay 3 months.

Somehow I feel as if you would not
any longer. but you may, if you only
looked for personal comfort, I think
you could not be better off. but you do
not. Priscilla has just been in & bids me tell
you she has just been hearing your letters read
& is rejoiced that you are so comfortably
situated, sends much love - also mother &
Phebe. Do not be anxious about us Deborah
I would hope the *worst* is passed. & *I* if I
ever get well again, shall do different from
what I have ever done in some respects.
Johnson got no voluntary subscribers to the Lib.
but Miss Kingman. It is true R. Loring took
one, but Mrs K. told me that she had promised to
get him to make more work - likewise Mrs K. sub.
for Charlotte, but then she is going to make our
Society pay for it if she can *which* I *ardently* hope
she cannot do. Charlotte wants a paper

it seems of her own to keep under Bills nose all the time to convert him. She could have one of the Liberators to read & circulate, but that will not do, nothing will satisfy she & Mrs Gifford but the Society to take one for Bill to read, & then to lie dead. I don't approve & I won't. If Bill Pervots is going against the cause, he has my full liberty. 3 newspapers came to the office Sat. one to Atherton, one to E. Perkins & one to Mrs Perkins. I conclude some one sent it to her

Miss Deborah Weston
New Bedford

Mary Weston 9th
1839

I am too tired & worn out to write a word more. I am merely sit up, but I am much better than I was a week this night.

We have two papers from the Boston Friend which when I get well I hope to do much good with. Mr P. spoke to Johnson after the sermon, & they only talked of the new paper. Mr P. said "if there is a new paper I shall promote its circulation all in my power & take one myself." He told Mr Pease he had long wanted to take an intelligency paper, but would not, till

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